

THE JEAN MONNET ACTIVITIES : UNDERSTANDING EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

STIMULATING TEACHING AND RESEARCH ON THE EUROPEAN UNION AND FOSTERING THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN ACADEMICS AND DECISION MAKERS IN THE EU AND WORLD-WIDE

The Jean Monnet activities with an average annual budget of 45 million euro under the Erasmus+ Programmes support the following activities:

- x promote teaching and research on European integration world-wide among specialist academics, learners and citizens, notably through the creation of Jean Monnet Chairs and other academic activities, as well as by providing aid for other knowledge-building activities at higher education institutions;
- x support the activities of academic institutions or associations active in the field of European integration studies and support a Jean Monnet label for excellence;
support six institutions pursuing an aim of European interest;
- x promote policy debate and exchanges between the academic world and policymakers on Union policy priorities.

The Jean Monnet Conferences allow decisionmakers to concretely benefit from academic state of the art research, promote the interaction between the academic community, policymakers and civil society; and inspire new ways of thinking on policy issues

The Jean Monnet Thematic Groups discuss specific topics of political interest with European Commission and Member States officials

THE JEAN MONNET ACTIVITIES

1. The Jean Monnet activities are designed to increase knowledge about European integration by promoting teaching, research and debate with a focus on the history, politics, economics and law of the European Union and the EU's relations with other areas of the world
2. The Jean Monnet activities are aimed exclusively at higher education institutions (university-level institutions). They must be formally recognised in their country of origin as higher education institutions and be endowed with the appropriate legal status before they can participate.
3. With thousands of chairs and modules and hundreds of Centres of excellence the Jean Monnet activities currently operate on a worldwide basis in 77 countries on the five continents.
Higher education institutions world-wide are eligible to apply for Jean Monnet projects.
4. The selection of Jean Monnet activities is carried out via an annual call for proposals.
5. Via the call for proposals, higher education institutions can apply for support for the following actions

Applicants should read the full text of the call for proposals to understand the set of requirements attached to each of the actions

Jean Monnet Modules short teaching programmes in the field of European Union studies. Modules have a minimum duration of 40 teaching hours per academic year. Modules may concentrate on one particular discipline in European studies or be interdisciplinary in approach and therefore call upon the academic input of several professors and experts

Jean Monnet Chairs teaching posts with a specialisation in European Union studies for university professors or senior lecturers. Chair holders provide the minimum of 90 teaching hours per academic year.

Jean Monnet Centres of Excellence focal points of competence and knowledge on European Union subjects. Under the academic responsibility of a Jean Monnet Chair holder a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence gathers the expertise and competences of several experts. It aims at developing synergies between the various disciplines and resources in European Union studies, as well as at creating joint transnational activities and structural links with academic institutions in other countries. Centres also ensure openness to civil society.

Jean Monnet supports to institutions and associations enhance activities on European Union subjects teaching at the postgraduate level and for other relevant stakeholders. It also fosters activities aimed at collecting, elaborating, analysing and popularizing European Union subjects and their teaching. Associations should be interdisciplinary. They should be representative of the academic community in European Union studies at national, regional or supranational level.

Jean Monnet Networks and Projects: foster the creation and development of consortia of international players in the area of European Union studies, contribute to gathering information, exchanging practices, building knowledge and promoting the European Integration process across the world. They support innovation, cross fertilisation and the spread of European Union content.

6. The Jean Monnet selection is centralised in Brussels in order to ensure full coherence in the application of the award criteria. Applications are submitted directly and do not transit via government departments, permanent representations or other formal channels.

7. The selection is based on a rigorous peer review system: independent academic experts (university professors) perform an assessment of the quality of each application in light of the published award criteria.

8. Applications are assessed on the basis of four award criteria:

- Relevance of the project to the objectives and priorities of the action as well as to the foreseen target groups; extent to which the proposal fosters the development of new teaching and research
- Quality of the project team demonstrating an excellent profile and the pertinence of the key academic staff involved with the proposed activities
- Quality of the project design and implementation, particular the consistency between project objectives, activities and the budget proposed
- Impact on the institution on the students and learners benefiting from the Jean Monnet activity and on other organisations and individuals involved at local, regional, national and/or European levels

9. In addition to the financing, being selected as a Jean Monnet scholar offers academic prestige and recognition, provides academic networking opportunities within the Jean Monnet community, and the possibility to participate in Jean Monnet reflection activities (conferences and seminars).

10. Recipients of Jean Monnet professorships enjoy full academic freedom. The Jean Monnet network is valuable and academically prestigious precisely because of its capacity of independent and critical analysis on all issues that surround the European Union.

A JEAN MONNET SUCCESS STORY

The Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
Rennes

A pool of scientific skills on European integration issues; it brings together 7 Jean Monnet Chairs and researchers from different French universities on subjects such as law, economics, town planning and history relating to European issues.

It is well-known throughout Europe and trains students, directs research activities and offers a resource centre and a library specialising in European Union issues. It promotes a better understanding of the European Union by the general public, especially through its public lectures called "Rendez-vous d'Europe".

The University of Rennes interest in EU issues dates back to 1964 when the Rennes Centre for European Research was founded. A postgraduate research course specifically dedicated to Community law was introduced in 1980 and the first Jean Monnet chair in 1992. The Centre of Excellence offers from 1998 a broad selection of outstanding activities.

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More information on the Jean Monnet activities is available on the European Commission website :
http://ec.europa.eu/education/index_en.htm

The call for proposals and application forms are available on the website of the "Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency" (EACEA):
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/index_en.php